

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of Broker et al. )  
 ) Art Unit: 2173  
 )  
Serial Number: 09/919,794 ) Examiner: T. Halla  
 )  
Filed: August 2, 2001 ) Atty Docket: BRO009-162  
  
For: Information Display System for an Appliance Incorporating  
Electronic Interface Screen

## AFFIDAVIT SUBMITTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.131

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

We, John F. Broker, Douglas W. Gardner, Alan V. Neubauer, Brian L. Ness and Kim L. Wright are the inventors for the Information Display System for an Appliance Incorporating Electronic Interface Screen as covered by the above-identified U.S. patent application which was filed on August 2, 2001. The invention was conceived at least as early as May 2000 as evidenced by the attached invention disclosure form. Both the present invention and the interactive control system for a laundry appliance as set forth in U.S. Patent No. 6,502,265 are owned by the same assignee and were diligently worked on in connection with the production (production to practice) of a common washing machine that went into production on September 22, 2000.

We hereby declare that all statements made herein of our own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under *section 1001 of title 18 of the United States Code* and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Affidavit Submitted Under 37 C.F.R. 1.131  
Serial No. 09/919,794  
Page 2

Date: July 16, 2004

  
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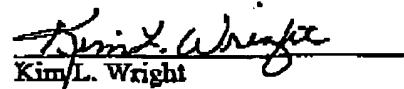
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Kew

## DISCLOSURE OF IDEA

MAYTAG

DISCLOSURE NO. 3944  
ORIGINATED AT Newton

PLEASE COMPLETE AND SIGN, THEN FORWARD TO THE PATENT ADMINISTRATOR

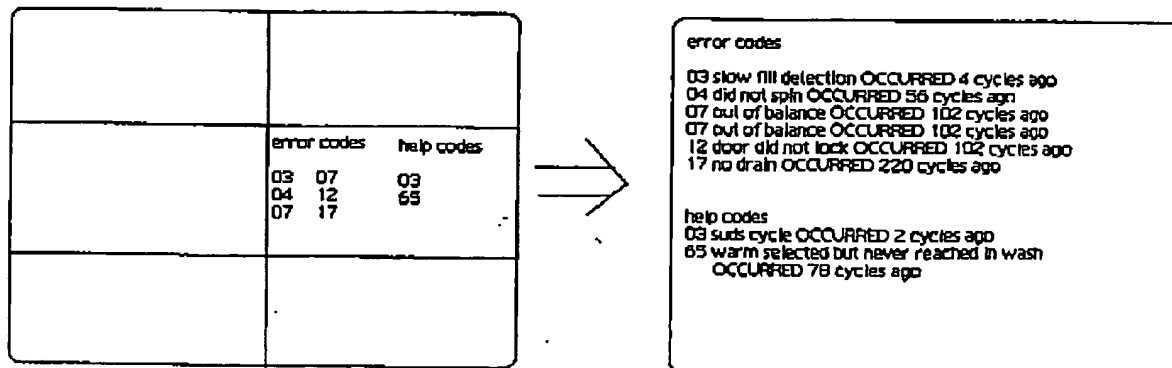
1. **TITLE OF IDEA**  
Method for presenting information on LCD screen
2. **NAME(S) OF PERSON(S) MAKING DISCLOSURE**  
Doug Gardner, John Broker, Kim Wright, Brian Ness
3. **DATE OF CONCEPTION OF IDEA**  
May 2000
4. **OBJECT AND DESCRIPTION OF IDEA**

On the LCD washer/dryer, in service mode; there is a flood of information that needs to be presented to the user. It is sometimes difficult to present all information in a coherent manner. In the example shown below, imagine, for a second, that the "open" boxes contain a multitude of information. All this information is important to the servicer. At a glance the servicer can see all the information they need to diagnose the machine. However, this short form of information is quite often not enough to fully understand and solve the problem. To get more detailed information, the user presses a button that "blows up" the amount of information to a full screen view. See example below.

What is neat, new and different:

- 1) The idea of presenting the information on a screen, segregated into related groupings so that it is easier for the user to find quick, relevant information.
- 2) The idea of pressing a button - whether part of the touch-screen LCD or on a fixed, off-screen button - and having additional, more detailed information on that topic fill the screen.

5. **DRAWING OR DIAGRAM**



## 6. PRIOR ART

n/a

## 7. USE OF IDEA

all appliances having a flexible display; like the NCN washer and dryer.

## 8. DISCLOSURE TO OTHERS

DeAmertek

## 9. PRODUCTION USE

This will go into production in September 2000. It would have been available to be seen by the public at the IA State Fair.

## 10. WITNESSES (Persons to whom the idea has been disclosed, who understand it, and have read the disclosure.)

EXPLAINED TO AND UNDERSTOOD BY ME:

<u>MITCH CORBETT</u>	<u>6/1/2000</u>	<u>10/2/2000</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>
<u>JEFF BLAIR</u>	<u>6/1/2000</u>	<u>9/19/2000</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>
Name of Witness (Printed or Typed)	Date of First Disclosure	Date of Signature	Signature of Witness

## 11. SIGNATURE(S) OF INVENTOR(S)

[By signing below I indicate that I believe that I am an inventor of the above-disclosed invention and that it is assignable to Maytag Corporation.]

<u>DOUGLAS GARDNER</u>	<u>8/31/2000</u>	<u>Douglas Gardner</u>
<u>Kenn L. Wright</u>	<u>8/31/2000</u>	<u>Kenn L. WRIGHT</u>
<u>John Broker</u>	<u>9/1/00</u>	<u>John B. Broker</u>
<u>Brian Ness</u>	<u>9/19/2000</u>	<u>Brian L. Ness</u>
Name of Inventor (Printed or Typed)	Date of Signature	Signature of Inventor(s)

Noted: 11/1/01 2500+2000☐ - Disclosure Review Committee refer to Concept TeamAlan V. Neubauer01/25/01[Signature]